

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-20 SCA-01 SCSE-00 L-01 SY-04 INR-05

INRE-00 SSO-00 DRC-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 USIE-00 CIAE-00

NSC-05 NSCE-00 H-01 PA-01 NSAE-00 /052 W

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O 121210Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6001

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 BRASILIA 7855

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, BR, CPRS (MORRIS, FREDERICK)

SUBJECT:JUSTICE MINISTRY PRESS RELEASE ON MORRIS CASE

REF: BRASILIA 7770

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE ISSUED PRESS RELEASE AFTERNOON OCTOBER 9
CONTAINING DENIAL, BASED ON MEDICAL REPORT (SEE PARA. 13
RFTL) THAT MORRIS HAD SUFFERED MORE THAN MINIMUM
NECESSARY VIOLENCE FOR PURPOSES OF CARRYING OUT ARREST, AND
DETAILING ALLEGED EVIDENCE OF SUBVERSION OUTSTANDING
AGAINST HIM. INFORMAL EMBASSY TRANSLATION OF PRESS
RELEASE FOLLOWS:

BEGIN QUOTE

1. THE SECURITY AGENCIES OF RECIFE ARRESTED, ON THE 30TH
OF SEPTEMBER, THE AMERICAN CITIZEN FREDERICK BIRTE
MORRIS, WHO IS A LICENSED PASTOR OF THE METHODIST CHURCH
OF BRAZIL IN THE CAPITAL OF PERNAMBUCO, EX-CORRESPONDENT
OF THE TIME-LINE GROUP AND OF THE NEWS AGENCY ASSOCIATED
PRESS, EX-PROFESSOR OF PERNAMBUCO FEDERAL UNIVERSITY
AND CURRENTLY A BUSINESSMAN IN THAT STATE.

2. MR. FREDERICK (SIC) HAD BEEN ARRESTED PREVIOUSLY, ON
APRIL 28, 1974, FOR INVESTIGATION, WHILE HE WAS LEAVING
A "SAFE HOUSE" WHERE HE MAINTAINED CONTACT WITH ELEMENTS
OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF BRAZIL (PC DO B), AND WAS
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QUICKLY FREED BY SECURITY AUTHORITIES.

3. RECENTLY, DURING AN INQUIRY, IN VARIOUS STATEMENTS MADE BY MEMBERS OF "MARXIST-LENIST POPULAR ACTION" (MLPA) AND OF THE PC DO B ARRESTED IN THE NORTHEAST, MR. FREDERICK WAS CITED AS A SYMPATHIZER AND COLLABORATOR OF THIS ORGANIZATION. HE WAS IDENTIFIED, IN THESE STATEMENTS, AS A LIAISON ELEMENT OF THE PC DO B WITH CHURCH PEOPLE AND FOREIGNERS, HAVING LOANED HIS RESIDENCES IN PRAIA DE TAMANDARE, NEAR RECIFE, AND IN THE DISTRICT OF ESPINHEIRO, IN THE SAME CITY, FOR MEETINGS OF THOSE ORGANIZATIONS. INVESTIGATIONS CARRIED OUT REVEALED THAT IN THESE SUBVERSIVE ORGANIZATIONS THE NAMED AMERICAN CITIZEN HAD THE CODE NAMES "JORGE" AND "PADRE NANDO," FALSIFIED PERMITS FOR CARRYING WEAPONS AND WROTE ARTICLES FOR PUBLICATIONS IN SUBVERSIVE PAMPHLETS.

4. IN HIS RESIDENCE WERE FOUND A COMPLETE PHOTOGRAPHIC LABORATORY AND NUMEROUS PHOTOGRAPHS, TAKEN BY HIM, VERY SIMILAR TO THOSE USED IN CAMPAIGNS CARRIED OUT ABROAD TO DOWNGRADE THE IMAGE OF BRAZIL. ACCORDING TO STATEMENTS OF OTHER SUBVERSIVES, THIS LABORATORY WAS USED BY MR. FREDERICK BIRTON MORRIS TO DEVELOP PHOTOS AND MICROFILMS OF INTEREST TO THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF BRAZIL. ALSO FOUND IN THE AFOREMENTIONED RESIDENCE WERE VARIOUS DOCUMENTS REVEALING THE COLLABORATION OF THIS PERSON WITH SUBVERSIVE CIRCLES, INCLUDING THE "RESEARCH PLAN" TO BE CARRIED OUT IN THE AREA OF GREATER RECIFE AND COVERING ALL SECTORS, EVEN THE MILITARY, (AND) DESIGNATED BY THE TITLE "SITUATION OF THE ENEMY" AND GOING INTO DETAIL ON ITEMS LIKE: TROOP CONCENTRATIONS OF THE ARMY, NAVY, AIRFORCE, MILITARY POLICE, CIVIL POLICE, INFORMATION AGENCIES: NUMBER OF TROOPS PER HEADQUARTERS: MOBILITY OF TROOPS: QUANTITY, QUALITY, AND KINDS OF WEAPONS: MILITARY BASES: TACTICS OF THE ENEMY, ETC. SECURITY AUTHORITIES FOUND, ALSO, THAT MR. FREDERICK BIRTON MORRIS LOANED HIS RESIDENCES FOR THE SHELTER OF SUBVERSIVES. THUS, ON SEPTEMBER 30, IN HIS APARTMENT, RUA VICENTE MEIRA 146, APT 302 IN THE ESPINHEIRO DISTRICT IN RECIFE, SECURITY AGENCIES

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LOCATED THE TERRORIST ALAMIR CARDOSO, CODE NAMES "PONTE", "PONTES", "LEVINDO," CHIEF OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE PC DO B, CONDEMNED TO 18 MONTHS IN PRISON FOR SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES BY THE FOURTH CJM OF THE FOURTH MILITARY REGION IN JUIZ DE FORA (MATO GROSSO), WHO WAS A FUGITIVE.

5. THE FOURTH ARMY COMMAND WAS SOUGHT OUT, ON THE

SECOND DAY OF THIS MONTH, BY MR. RICHARD BROWN, AMERICAN CONSUL IN RECIFE, WHO WANTED TO VISIT HIS COMPATRIOT AFTER LEARNING OF HIS ARREST. THAT DEIPLOMAT WAS RECEIVED BY THE MILITARY AUTHORITIES AND DULY INFORMED OF THE IMPOSSIBILITY OF AN IMMEDIATE VISIT TO MR. FREDERICK BIRTE MORRIS, BECAUSE OF THE INVESTIGATIONS IN PROCESS, AS PRESCRIBED BY THE NATIONAL SECURITY LAW.

6. AFTER CLARIFICATIONS OFFERED BY THE FOURTH ARMY COMMAND, MR. RICHARD BROWN WITHDREW FROM THE HEADQUARTERS OF THAT ARMY APPARENTLY SATISFIED WITH THE TREATMENT GRANTED HIM, THE INFORMATION PROVIDED, AND THE COMMITMENT TO CONSULT AUTHORITIES IN BRASILIA REGARDING THE CARRYING OUT OF A VISIT TO THE PRISON.

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7. THE FOLLOWING DAY, THE THIRD OF THIS MONTH, THE VISIT OF THE AMERICAN CONSUL TO MR. FREDERICK BIRTE MORRIS WITH EVERY FREEDOM AND WITHOUT RESTRICTIONS AS TO LENGTH WAS AUTHORIZED AND CARRIED OUT, AND LASTED FOR ABOUT TWO HOURS. ON THAT OCCASION, MR. FREDERICK ALLEGED TO THE AMERICAN CONSUL THAT HE HAD UNDERGONE TORTURE WHILE BEING INTERROGATED AND SHOWED TO THAT CONSULAR AUTHORITY A BRUISE IN THE GLUTEAL REGION, SOME BRUISES ON THE RIGHT KNEE AND ON THE WRISTS, BY WAY OF PROOF OF THE ALLEGED VIOLENCE.

8. THE EVIDENCE IN THE MEDICAL REPORT (ANNEXED) ISSUED BY A BOARD COMPOSED OF FIVE CIVILIAN DOCTORS IN THE CAPITAL OF PERNAMBUCO, SHOWED THAT THE "BRUISE," THE "ABRASIONS IN THE RIGHT ROTULEAN REGION" AND THE "VARIOUS ABRASIONS AROUND BOTH WRISTS" RESULTED IN THIS WAY: THE BRUISES, FROM THE MORORCYCLE ACCIDENT SUFFERED BY MR. FREDERICK ACCORDING TO HIS OWN STATEMENT, (WHICH WAS) BROADLY NOTED IN THE PRESS: THE ABRASIONS, FROM THE ATTEMPT TO ESCAPE ARREST, UPON FALLING ON THE SIDEWALK OF RESIDENCE, AND FROM THE USE OF HANDCUFFS, WHICH AS A CONSEQUENCE THE SECURITY AUTHROTIES WERE OBLIGED TO MAKE USE OF IN ORDER TO GUARANTEE THE CARRYING OUT OF THE ARREST IN VIEW OF THE RESISTENCE WHICH HE OFFERED, FACTS ALSO ALREADY REVEALED BY THE PRESS.

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9. MR. RICHARD BROWN HAS BEEN VISITING MR. FREDERICK REGULARLY, BEGINNING WITH THE FIFTH OF THIS MONTH, TAKING AN INTEREST IN THE HEALTH CONDITIONS AND TREATMENT RECEIVED BY THE SAME.

10. THE BEHAVIOR OF MR. FREDERICK BIRTE MORRIS, SINCE HIS ARRIVAL IN BRAZIL JANUARY 12, 1964, INTERRUPTED BY A STAY IN THE UNITED STATES IN THE 1968 TO 1970 PERIOD, AND FOLLOWING HIS RETURN TO OUR COUNTRY, WAS ALWAYS UNDER CONTINUAL SUSPICION, NOW SHOWN CLEARLY BY HIS ARTLESS PARTICIPATION IN SUBVERSIVE-TERRORIST OF THE PC DO B AND OF THE MLPA.

11. THE ACTIONS CARRIED OUT BY THE SUBJECT UNDER CONSIDERATION, CLEARLY OFFENSIVE TO THE NATIONAL SECURITY, CONTINUE TO BE INVESTIGATED, (WITH) EVERYTHING LEADING TO THE BELIEF THAT THEY EXTEND TO OTHER AREAS OF THE COUNTRY AND HAVE CONNECTIONS WITH FOREIGN ORGANIZATIONS.

MEDICAL REPORT

WE THE UNDESIGNED DOCTORS, IN THE FULL EXERCISE OF THE FUNCTION, ON OCTOBER 5, 1974 AT 6:30 P.M. IN THIS CLINIC, SITUATED ON RUW DA SOLEDADE 181, BOA VISTA, BY REQUEST OF HHE FOURTH ARMY EXAMINED AS A MEDICAL BOARD MR. FREDERICK BIRTE MORRIS, COLOR WHITE, APPARENTLY 35 TO 40 YEARS. DURING THE EXAMINATION, HE APPEARED TO BE IN GOOD GENERAL CONDITION, REDDISH MUCUOUS MEMBRANES, WELL-PRESERVED SKIN TURGIDITY, WITH A BLOOD PRESSURE OF 120 OVER 80 AND A

PULSE RATE OF 80 PER MINUTE.
HEAD AND NECK

ABSENCE OF ABRASIONS, WOUNDS, BRUISES, AND BONE
INJURY. THE ORAL CAVITY SHOWED THE DENTAL ARCHES
INTACT.

TRUNK

ABSENCE OF BONE INJURIES. FRONT SIDE OF SKIN
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INTACT WITHOUT INJURIES. (ON THE) BACK SIDE WE NOTED
A BRUISE IN THE GLUTEAL REGION.

UPPER LIMBS

OSTEO-MUSCULAR SYSTEM INTACT. PRESENCE OF
VARIOUS ABRASIONS AROUND BOTH WRISTS. HE COMPLAINED OF
LOSS OF FEELING IN THE FIRST AND SECOND FINGERS OF THE
LEFT HAND. UPON EXAMINATION, THERE IS NOTED DISTINCT
IMPAIRMENT OF FEELING AT THE POINT OF THE FIRST AND
SECOND LEFT FINGERS.

LOWER LIMBS

OSTEO-MUSCULAR SYSTEM INTACT. PRESENCE OF
ABRASIONS IN THE RIGHT ROTULIAN REGION.

PSYCHE

PATIENT ORIENTED IN TIME AND SPACE, COOPERATING
WITH THE EXAMINERS. (DATED AND SIGNED.)
END OF QUOTE
CRIMMINS

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